

CLAIMS

1. An expression cassette comprising, operably linked, (i) a myosin light chain enhancer, (ii) a promoter selected from a myosin heavy chain promoter and a viral promoter and (iii) a polynucleotide sequence of interest.
2. An expression cassette according to claim 1 wherein said myosin light chain enhancer is a myosin light chain 1/3 enhancer.
3. An expression cassette according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said myosin heavy chain promoter is a fish myosin heavy chain promoter.
4. An expression cassette according to claim 3 wherein said fish myosin heavy chain promoter is a carp FG2 myosin heavy chain promoter.
5. An expression cassette according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said myosin heavy chain promoter is a mammalian myosin heavy chain promoter.
6. An expression cassette according to claim 5 wherein said mammalian myosin heavy chain promoter is a truncated rabbit β -cardiac myosin heavy chain promoter.
7. An expression cassette according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said viral promoter is a cytomegalovirus promoter or a herpes simplex virus promoter.
8. An expression cassette according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said polynucleotide sequence of interest encodes a polypeptide of therapeutic use.
9. An expression cassette according to claim 8 wherein said polypeptide is α -galactosidase.

10. An expression cassette according to any one of the preceding claims for use in delivering said polynucleotide sequence of interest to a eukaryotic cell.
11. An expression cassette according to claim 10 wherein said eukaryotic cell is a muscle cell of a bird, fish or mammal.
12. A nucleic acid vector comprising an expression cassette as defined in any one of the preceding claims.
13. A vector according to claim 12 further comprising avian, fish or mammalian genomic sequences flanking said expression cassette.
14. A vector according to claim 12 or 13 further comprising viral genomic sequences flanking said expression cassette.
15. A viral strain comprising an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11.
16. A method of producing a viral strain according to claim 15 which method comprises introducing an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 into the genome of a virus.
17. A method of producing a viral strain according to claim 15 which method comprises introducing an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 into the genome of a virus by homologous recombination between said genome and a vector as defined in claim 14.
18. An expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a vector according to any one of claims 12 to 14 or a viral strain according to claim 15 for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body.

19. An expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a vector according to any one of claims 12 to 14 or a viral strain according to claim 15 for use in the treatment of Fabry disease.

20. Use of an expression cassette according any one of claims 1 to 11, a vector according to any one of claims 12 to 14 or a viral strain according to claim 15 in the treatment of Fabry disease.

21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a vector according to any one of claims 12 to 14 or a viral strain according to claim 15 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

22. A method of treatment of the human or animal body which method comprises administering an effective, non-toxic amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21 to a human or animal in need of such treatment.

23. A method according to claim 22 for the treatment of Fabry disease.

24. A method of effecting gene therapy in a human or animal which method comprises introducing an expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a vector according to any one of claims 12 to 14 or a viral strain according to claim 15 into the cells of a human or animal in need of such therapy in an amount resulting in effective expression of a heterologous gene encoding a therapeutic polypeptide in said cells.

25. An expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein said polynucleotide of interest encodes a polypeptide comprising at least one epitope.

26. An expression cassette according to claim 25 wherein said polypeptide is derived from a pathogenic organism.

27. A vector comprising an expression cassette according to claims 25 or 26.

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28. A viral strain comprising an expression cassette according to claim 25 or 26.
29. An expression cassette according to claim 25 or 26, a vector according to claim 27 or a viral strain according to claim 28 for use in a method of vaccinating a bird, fish or mammal.
30. A vaccine comprising an expression cassette according to claim 25 or 26, a vector according to claim 27 or a viral strain according to claim 28 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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